IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

SEPTEMBER 2016

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You are receiving this newsletter because You

- have attended one of our events, - have expressed an interest in what we are doing or own property in the Greater Irondale area. We have been combing the assessment records at the township offices — quite a major undertaking — to gather the postal addresses of our neighbours in the area surrounding the actual village of Irondale.

If you have received this newsletter by Canada Post and have a valid email address— please give some thought to sending us your email. Please be assured we have no intention of selling, trading or other means of sharing our database. You will only receive an email with the newsletters (4 time a year) and if something fantastic happens that we want you to be aware of and it can't wait until the next issue.

Future newsletters would be sent to you by email, thereby saving us precious money. Look for email contest information inside this newsletter.

See At First Glance on page two

Corduroy Roads

Most of the historic corduroy road has been uncovered under King Street in downtown Waterloo.

This spring, during routine road work, a corduroy road was uncovered under King Street in downtown Waterloo.

Corduroy roads were a solution to crossing the miles of swampy land encountered by the first settlers in Haliburton County as well as other locations across the country.

These roads were constructed by laying logside by side across the swampy ground in a pattern that reminded people of the corduroy fabric.

A thorough documentation must be made before the historic pieces are dismantled & removed. Lead archeologist documenting the road said it was built between 1790 and 1816 by the Mennonites that settled the area.

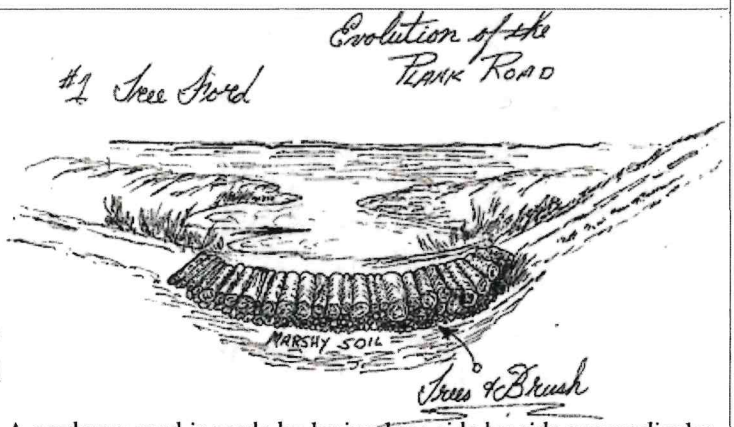
Corduroy roads were a rough ride for those in the ox carts & horse wagons. The wheels jolted over every bump. Often times the passengers would prefer to get out and walk rather than be jostled around in the wagon/carriage.

Continued of page two

Corduroy roads cont'd from page one ...

In the very wet weather the logs could actually float and roll. Rolling logs were a menace to the wagon drivers. The horses could easily get their legs trapped between the logs, causing extensive damage to the horse and the wagon.

Over time and with continued use, the logs would gradually sink into the swamp. New logs would have to be laid in place over the log(s) that had sunk, allowing the roadway to be used once again.



A corduroy road is made by laying logs side by side perpendicular to a roadway passing through soft or wet soil.

Even with all the disadvantages, the corduroy roads did make transportation a little easier for the early settlers and tradesmen.

Of course road building practices have advanced considerably since the days of the early settlers.

You can still find evidence of those old corduroy roads though. Think of the back roads you travel in the early spring. Those bumps that come back year after year are parts of the old corduroy roads. When the frost is coming out of the ground, it heaves those old logs. Those bumps can stay there indefinitely, even though the frost has completely disappeared, the logs remain displaced.

Library & Archives Canada Flickr Site www.flickr.com/photos/lac-bac/albums/with/72157670701784355

At First Glance

We tend to think emailing is just about saving the cost of the postage stamps, when in actual fact, it is saving the cost of the paper, ink, envelope and stamp.

To give you some idea of costs for the June issue — the newsletter was .90 cents each to print, .05 cents for envelope and address label and the stamp costs .85 cents. That means each newsletter we mailed out in June cost $1.80 each. Multiply that by 560 copies and the bill comes in a little over $1,000 before taxes.

We feel the newsletters are an important means of communication. The numbers on our mailing lists continue to grow. That is good news! We must find alternative sources to offset the costs.

With the March issue we started to offer business card sized advertise ments. We have a few businesses interested.

You will find new advertisers in this issue.

Please visit our advertisers stores and websites — let them know you found them in the Irondale Newsletter.

Wall Flower Studio
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Wife send this shocking note complaining about her husband.

Dear Tech Support,

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slowdown in overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewelry applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0

In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as: Romance 9.5 & Personal Attention 6.5, & installed undesirable programs such as: NBA 5.0, NFL 3.0 and Golf Clubs 4.1

Conversation 8.0 do longer runs, and House Cleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail.

What can I do?
Signed, Desperate

Dear Desperate,

First, keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an operating system. Please enter command: I thought you loved me.html and try to download Tears 6.2 & do not forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed. Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5

However, remember, overuse of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0 or Beer 6.1. Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download the Farting and Snoring Loudly Beta.

Whatever you do, DO NOT, under any circumstances, install Mother-in-Law 1.0 (it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources)

In addition, please do not attempt to re-install the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might buy additional software to improve memory and performance. We recommend: Cooking 3.0 and Hot Lingerie 7.7.

Good Luck!

TREE OF LIFE

By Blake Debassige

The original of this was an acrylic on canvas 96" x 61". A print of the same is hanging inside the Irondale Church. Very interesting piece especially when you have this explanation with it. There is a copy hanging next to the print.

This painting is a celebration of life. It reflects a vision of life as seen through the story of the native community.

The stylized owl, which is set atop the tree, reminds us that people are mortal. Death is part of our living.

There are two representations of the Holy Trinity: Three birds sitting on the tree-top and three circles above them.

Birds are considered the medium by which the soul travels. So each bird represents the people who have died, but whose presence is still felt around us. The various faces within the tree represent the people living today, at various ages. When you count all the faces they add up to 12.

Three figures on the lowermost branches: the animal-like form, the human form and the cocoon-shaped figure to the right represent the ancient culture and way of life of the people. They do not figure strongly in the mural but they are still present. Some of the ancient traditions and the language still remain, but there is much lost.

The naked Christ is depicted as an Indian Christ, for the native peoples adopted him generations ago. He holds wild roses in his hand recalling the practice of giving flowers when a person dies.

Two serpents appear as if through cracks and crevices in the earth with only the heads and tails visible. They represent temptation and the spirit of evil which exists in the world. Each one is grasping at small white butterflies but unable to secure them within their grasp. This is the reward for the dark side: futility.

The tree itself is a Cedar, known for its medicinal purposes and respected by the people. It is well rooted, firmly founded and strong.

Stop by Irondale's Church and see this picture for yourself.

Condolences to the families of

Julius Johan 'Far' Christiansen
on his passing July 5th, 2016.

Kenneth Brown
on his passing July 20, 2016.

Rev. Merv Everall
on his passing August 4, 2016.

Jelle "John" Bergsma
on his passing August 21, 2016.

The Creator has called you home.
Like a bird you will soar to his arms to
live forever with out pain or worry.
Till we meet again.

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Bark Lake Cultural Developments

Reiner and Barbara of **Tamarack Lodge, Gooderham** hosted a fantastic concert on Tuesday August 16. It was held in their newly built Yurt. The Yurt was an experience in itself. You need to check it out.

Fred and I were fortunate to attend and experience the talent of this brother and sister duo. How they practice is beyond me—Qristina attends University in Ireland. Quinn in the States! They have been fiddle playing since they were six. He has also mastered the guitar and the banjo. They have been writing their own material since thirteen! The energy of these two—well I was exhausted just watching!

Please visit their website www.qbachand.com and purchase their CDs. You won't be disappointed.

What You Do With What You've Got Words & Music by Si Kahn

You must know someone like him
He was tall and strong and lean
With a body like a greyhound
And a mind so sharp and keen
But his heart, just like a laurel,
Grew twisted round itself
Till almost every thing he did
Caused pain to someone else

It's not just what you're born with
It's what you choose to bear
It's not how big your share is
But how much you can share
And it's not the fights you dreamed of
But those you really fought
It's not what you've been given
It's what you do with what you've got

Now what's the good of two strong legs
If you only run away?
And what use is the finest voice
If you've nothing good to say?
And what good is strength and muscle
If you only push and shove?
And what's the use of two good ears
If you can't hear those you love?

Between those who use their neighbours
And those who use a cane
Between those in constant power
And those in constant pain
Between those who run to evil
And those who cannot run
Tell me which ones are the cripples
And which ones touch the sun?

Qristina and Quinn sang this song as well at the Tamarack Lodge concert.

The song was fantastic. I wanted to share the words with you.

Check them out on **You Tube**. They sing this song.

Irondale's First Family Harvest Festival

Sat. Sept. 24

12 to 4pm

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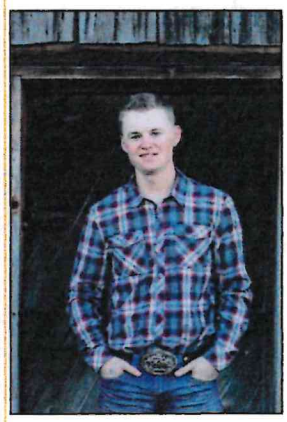

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Highland Meats, Gooderham
Irondale Store on 503, Irondale
On The Spot Variety, Minden

Whiskey Jack—Stories and Songs of Stompin' Tom A good crowd attended the BLCD's August 6th fundraiser at the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre in Wilberforce after the Agricultural Fair's Beef Dinner.

Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar belted out their songs to an appreciative crowd on Saturday August 27. The heritage 1887 church building once again provided the ideal atmosphere and acoustics. Thanks Samantha for rockin' Irondale.

Salerno (Devil's) Lake Cottage Association held their annual AGM and Canoe Race on the weekend of July 30/31. This particular AGM was their 50th Anniversary. Next year the Canoe Race will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. As you can see in the pictures below, a good crowd attended, eagerly waiting for the results of the various races. The paddles lined up here are the prizes—all made and donated by Mr. John Leonard.

This event give members of all ages a fun way to meet neighbours on the lake. For the first 46 years this race was a 10km paddle down a splendid stretch of the Irondale River to the picnic area at Furnace Falls. In 2014 the Irondale River was impassable. The race was moved to Salerno Lake. Organizers hope to be 'back on the river' for the 50th Anniversary.

More details can be found on
www.sdlca.ca

The Irondale Community Centre held its annual 3 Pitch Tournament on the weekend of July 23/24 at the ball diamond in Irondale. The weather was certainly hot—as it was most of the summer.

At one point in the tournament, a Home Run Derby was the challenge. Participants got 5 swings, and the male and female that gets the most 'over the fence' wins. Brianne Pockett won for the ladies. To save time, David Stewart and Kenton Winn shared the Men's prize. It seems these two were pretty well matched, the contest could have went on considerably longer waiting for one of these 'boys' to miss.

The overall winners — *The Jimmy's*.
This team plays each year—honouring Jim O'Neill of West Guilford area. Those names left to right—back row—Jonny Morrison, Kenton Winn, Ryan O'Neill, Jordan Hamilton.
Middle row—Many Harrison, Andi Donaldson, Mikayla O'Neill and Kim Henry.
Front row—Carter O'Neill, Jordan Nimigon.
Missing from the picture is Emma Casey.
This team won Blue Jay Baseball tickets.

The second place winners — *Hit for Brains*.
Back row—left to right—Paul Bellefleur, Andrew Burt, Brenda Burt, Jonathan Burt, Lindsay Salvador, Karen Armstrong, Jason Simmons.
Front Row—Dave Burke, Alicia Burke and Mark Simmons.

Congratulations the Irondale Community Centre Board on another successful tournament. This tournament is always held the weekend prior to the August long weekend. Start thinking of who you want on your team and get registered for next year!

Contest Information

Send us a quick email indicating you are responding to this newsletter and wish to have your newsletters sent to you by email.

Send us a quick email <u>even if you are already on our email list</u>.

We want to include all email addresses in this contest. Your email to **historical@IrondaleOntario.ca** must be received between Sept 1 and Nov 15.

The Prize(s)?

Can you find yourself? Marcus Tuomi of Irondale has a drone. He was kind enough to fly it over the ball field during the Canoe Race festivities and take this picture. Great shot. Do you remember where you were standing that day? Thanks Marcus for sharing!

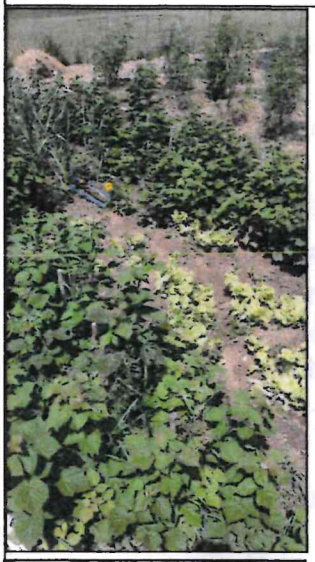
With the June issue we reinstated the Postage Heroes for those that wish to help with the cost of postage.

Any amount is greatly appreciated.

* *Lorraine Poulo*
* *Madeleine Howarth*
* *Carol Simmons*
* *Ellie MacNeil*

Perhaps one of you (or a family member) works for a company that has a postage machine.

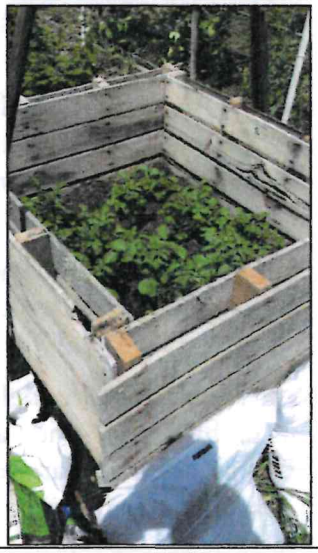
Would they be interested in providing some of the postage? We could arrange to get the envelopes to them to stamp. Then we get them back to stuff the newsletters and post. We would certainly be interested in discussing the idea them. Call 705-457-8438 or email historical@Irondale Ontario.ca



This year **Fred's Garden** experienced a set back. The two frosts we received in June, after everything had been planted, destroyed much of the garden. These pictures were taken just weeks after the 2nd planting. The new plants are well on their way to producing food.

Wendy Idiens has been plugging away at the garden. I understand she makes bags up, similar to the picture below, with whatever is ready for picking each week. She then takes them to the Minden Food Bank to be passed on to the families to help stretch their grocery money just a little further.

We all know how expensive fresh vegetables and salad ingredients can be. I'm sure the Minden Food Bank appreciates what Wendy does for them each summer.



Apache Blessing

May the sun bring you new energy. May the moon softly restore you by night. May the rain wash away your worries; May the breeze blow strength into your being. May you walk gently through the world and know it's beauty all the days of your life.

Early photo of the bridge work at "Maxwell's Crossing" - corner of Contau Lake Rd and Irondale Rd.

Biscuits ...

One Sunday morning at a small southern church, the new pastor called on one of his older deacons to lead in the opening prayer. The deacon stood up, bowed his head and said, "Lord, I hate buttermilk."

The pastor opened one eye and wondered where this was going. The deacon continued, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was totally perplexed. The deacon continued, "Lord, I ain't too crazy about plain flour. But after you mix 'em all together and bake 'em in a hot oven, I just love biscuits."

"Lord help us to realize when life gets hard, when things come up that we don't like, whenever we don't understand what You are doing, that we need to wait and see what You are making. After you get through mixing and baking, it'll probably be something even better than biscuits. Amen.

Romans 8:28

An Appeal to our Greater Irondale Residents – Partner with us as Stewards of our Community!

A duty shared is a duty halved. Here in the Irondale community we are fortunate to have various partnership on many levels for our community. Recently the BLCD, the Community Centre Board and the Salerno Devils Lake Cottage Association approved sharing the costs to commission and install two new signs for our hamlet. These beautiful large signs will be installed on Hwy 503. Additional community event signage will be displayed below the new signs.

In Haliburton County, the villages of Kinmount, Minden, Dorset, Haliburton, Gooderham and Wilberforce have all installed wonderful distinctive signage to mark their communities. A charming sign including historical features and often pretty landscaping or solar lighting gives the public a welcoming positive impression of the village they are travelling into. A good sign becomes a point of interest to photograph when visiting an area. Most importantly, a good sign indicates a deep sense of community pride in the village it announces. And that says something about its residents too.

Here in Irondale we have a long history of unique signage. Our original railway station and historical places of interest in the past all proudly displayed signs to designate their significance in the community. It was a proud day when the local municipality awarded our 1887 pioneer church 'Historical Site' status. Those signs were proudly installed on our roads leading visitors to the church.

Local resident and caretaker of the heritage church for 63 years Fred Simmons (featured in the June 2016 newsletter) was so moved by a Billy Graham Crusade he attended, that he installed his famous signs in front of his property with selected Bible passages along with advertising community events. Those signs became synonymous with the Irondale Community for generations.

Sadly, a few years ago one of our Irondale signs was vandalized and stolen. For our community and the generous supporters who paid for the signs, the theft was hurtful. The BLCD appealed in the newsletter for its return, but sadly it was never found.

We invite all Greater Irondale Residents both permanent and seasonal, to be stewards of Irondale's shared property by protecting and preserving our community property. We know our residents do have civic pride and a sense of wanting visitors to have a great impression of the community when they see our signage. Help us carry on the tradition of protecting and maintaining our Irondale signs. That says a lot about our residents – partners as stewards of our community.

Submitted

It was pointed out to me that I neglected to give the website addresses for the Highlands East project described in the March 2016 issue. Please accept my apologies ...
- an internet-based historical "family tree" of the community. *Details of living individuals will be suppressed.* can be found at http://settlers.highlandseast.ca
- an internet-based cultural and historical map of the municipality, populated with information on pioneer settlers and settlements, schools, industries, stories and events can be found at http://culturalmaps.highlandseast.ca

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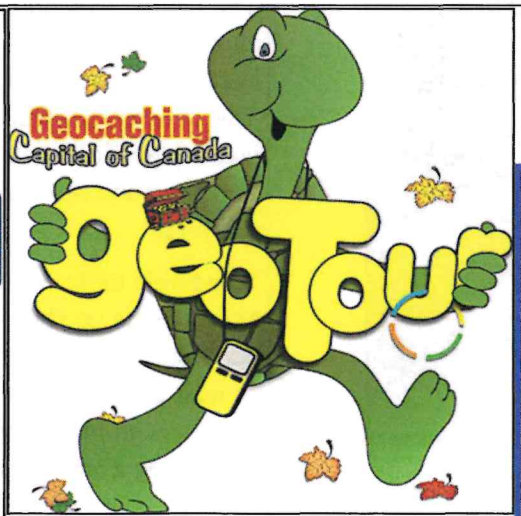

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Kinmount Model Railway and Museum

I had heard so much about the changes that were made, I wanted to see for myself. Fred & I finally had the opportunity one Saturday afternoon in early August. Rather than come up with my words, I have copied here from the July 3, 2015 My Kawarthan at www.mykawartha.com

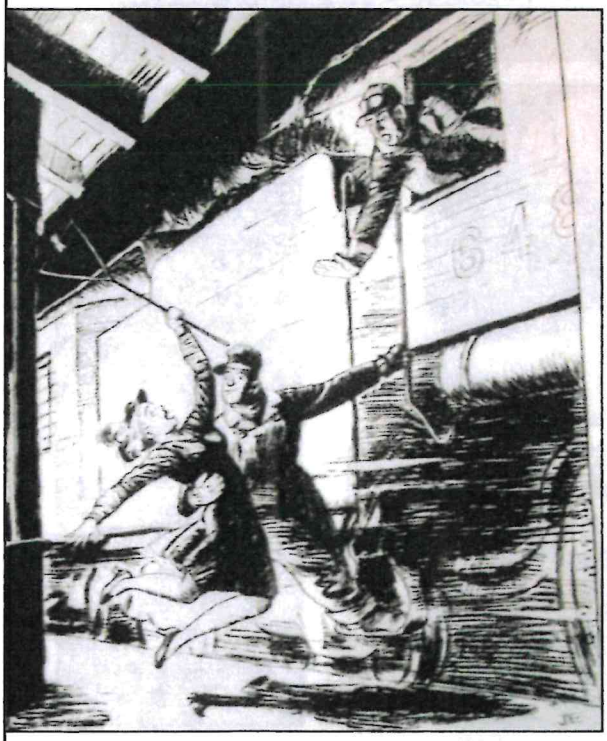
"The station's passenger waiting area, ticket office and baggage room have been restored to display historic artifacts, memorabilia, photos and posters. Taking up the entire baggage room, the model railway gives a unique picture of Kinmount, and neighbouring towns and villages situated along the railway line, as they were many years ago.

Built more than 20 years ago, the model railway's original home was at the Kinmount Fairgrounds. It soon grew out of the space it inhabited there. Since it relocated to the more fitting location of the railway station, the display has continued to grow and evolve. "Awhile ago, we installed clear barriers to protect the models, and I'm also hoping to integrate motion sensors so that the lights, sounds and moving pieces will work whenever visitors walk in," explains museum volunteer David Hodgson.

Hodgson adds that local retired telegrapher, Grenville Schrader, recently donated a wealth of telegraph office equipment and memorabilia which will has allowed the museum to showcase more pieces and historical photos.

"This is a great place for train enthusiasts and history buffs to come and experience Kinmount's heritage," says Hodgson. To learn more about the Kinmount Model Railway and Museum, visit www.kinmount.ca or call 705-488-2635.

Our visit gave me the idea to write about one aspect/item I saw.



"No, No—just the train order - Not the Operator"

This is the cartoon that 'got me thinking' about an item to research. When I was working as Curator for the Minden Museum—yes I worked at the Minden Museum for 15+ years, leaving that position in 2010. Anyway, the Minden Museum has/had one of the these **Mail Hoops**.

A hoop is located at the end of a bamboo stick. It was used to pass a message to the driver without having to stop the train at whistle stops. As the agent stood on a platform, the hoop with the message clipped to the hoop, was grabbed by the driver as the engine passed by.

Occasionally, the driver would pretend to miss the hoop, making the station agent run alongside the moving train until the hoop was grabbed.

My research tells me the hoop was returned on the next train, however, I believe I was told (when working at the museum) that the train driver would drop the hoop alongside the track as soon as he removed the message. The station agent would then walk along the track to pick it up and return it to the station so it was ready for the next time it was needed.

continued next page

Irondale Community Centre

Advisory Committee of
Minden Hills Council

centre@IrondaleOntario.ca

~Rentals~

Rentals for the centre can be booked thru
Barry Simmons
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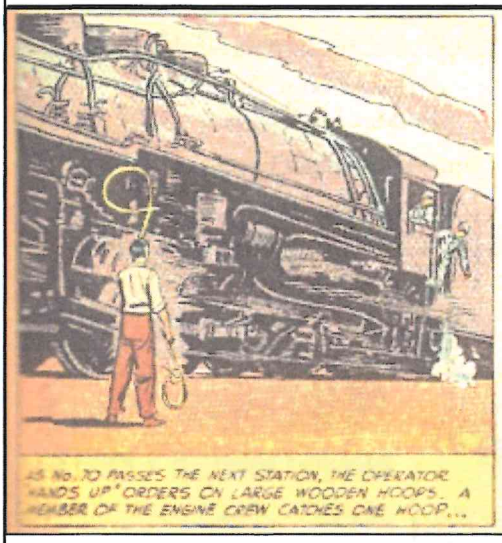
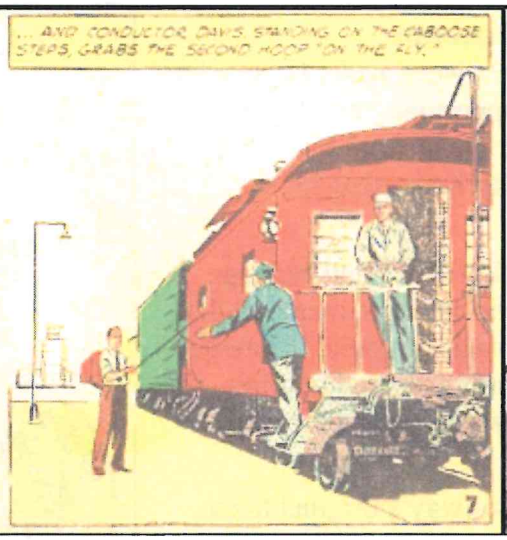
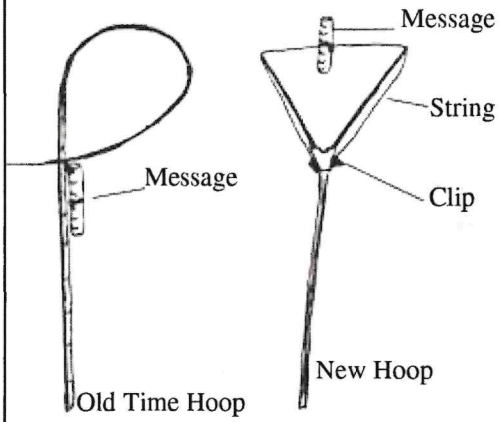

AS No. 70 PASSES THE NEXT STATION, THE OPERATOR HANDS UP ORDERS ON LARGE WOODEN HOOPS. A MEMBER OF THE ENGINE CREW CATCHES ONE HOOP...

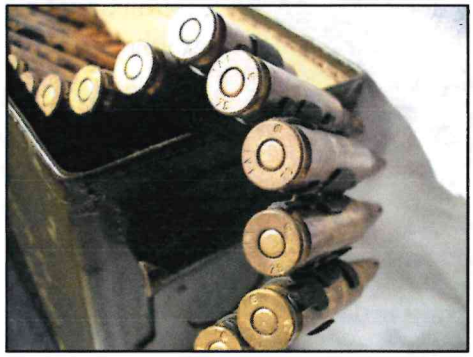


I understand it was similar for the mail. If there was a little mail, the mail bag would have been attached to this loop. If there was a lot of mail (too heavy for the loop) the mail bag would was hung on a hook from the station's eve and the driver would grab it as they passed. Once emptied, the bag would be thrown to the ground—to be retrieved by the station agent.



109th Battalion and WWI in our Heritage Display

Join us at the Kinmount Fair, Sept 2,3,4. We will have a display just inside the entrance to the Heritage Complex. Here a few pics of items you will see.



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~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

Hang this page on your refrigerator or next to your calendar so you don't miss out!

September 24	**Hike to the Iron Mine** is back by popular demand. Join George for a romp through the bush, hear history as only George can tell it. Hike will go rain or shine. Sturdy footwear and bug repellent a must. Free admission. Meet at the historic Irondale Church at 10:30 sharp. Approx 1 1/2 hrs
September 24	**Community Corn Roast & Country Concert**. He opened for the August 2015 concert, now enjoy Haliburton's own country star Ryan VanLieshout for the entire evening. *"Ryan proved exactly why we call him 'the next big thing" Hollywood Jamboree.* Ryan entertains at 7pm inside Irondale's heritage church. Ticket information below.
October 9	**Thanksgiving Service** - 7pm at Irondale's Community Church. Join the community for the traditional service of thanks. Join us between your main course and dessert, you will feel better!
November 12	**Hunter's Dinner** served at the Irondale Community Centre, offered from 5pm. Menu to be announced at a later date.
2017 April 8	**Fish n' Fowl Dinner** - Gooderham Community Centre - doors open 5pm, dinner served at 6pm. Tickets are $25 each
July 8	**Concert By The Lake** - Check www.sdlca.ca for more details
July 15	**Wild Game Dinner** - Galway Community Centre - doors open at 5pm, dinner served at 6pm with lots of auction action during & after dessert- $25 per person
July 29 & 30	**Irondale's 3 Pitch Ball Tournament** - check out the website closer to the date for all the info.
Aug 5 & 6	**Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association** AGM & 50th Anniversary Canoe Race
Sept 23	**Harvest Festival & Community BBQ** - vendors, games, tours, food - 1019 Elm Rd
Oct 8	**Thanksgiving Church Service** - 7pm - offering taken
Nov 11	**Hunters Dinner** - served 4pm & 6pm - menu to be decided - $15 pp - Irondale Com. Centre

Please check the website www.IrondaleOntario.ca for any changes between newsletter issues. Undoubtedly we will be adding more events as the calendar turns over to 2017.

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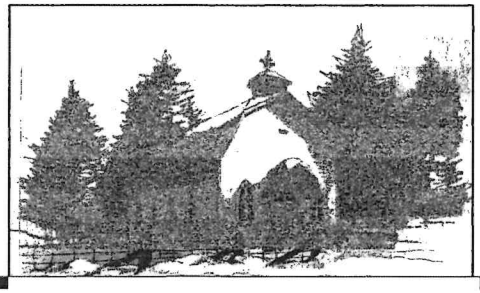

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